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G75-207
(Revised August 1994)

1994 Nebraska Farm Custom Rates - Part I

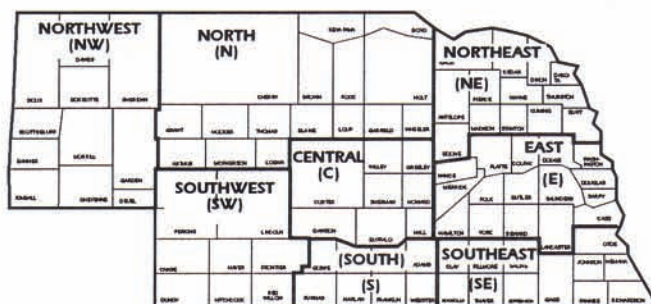
Raymond E. Massey, Extension Farm Management Specialist

This NebGuide reports common custom rate charges in 1994.

A survey of producers and custom operators was conducted in the spring of 1994 to collect rates the respondents expected to prevail for custom work done in 1994. **Only rates for spring and summer practices were requested.**

The responses are reported by *Crop Reporting Districts* which are shown on the map. Unless otherwise specified, the results are reported in dollars. Custom rates reported are charges for the use of necessary equipment, fuel and supplies such as baling wire or twine provided by the custom operator, and labor. Seed, fertilizer and chemical costs are not included.

The report is given only as the best available information. When the number reporting is low the data should be used with caution. When many responses are given, the *Average Rate* reported should give a good idea of the prevailing charge for that particular work. The *Most Common* rate is the rate reported more often than any other for that practice. Usually the *Average Rate* and *Most Common* rate are similar. The *Average Rate* is calculated to the nearest cent, while the *Most Common* rate is more generally reported to the nearest dollar. The *Range* gives the minimum and maximum amounts reported. It indicates the range of conditions under which the work was performed. The range may also reflect the fact that some rates consider travel to and from the field while others do not.



The rates may not accurately reflect the cost of performing the work specified. Some custom operators may only be recapturing the variable costs of fuel and labor. Other operators may be recovering all costs including depreciation on equipment and a charge for risk. Also, field conditions such as size, terrain and location vary. These conditions will account for some of the range in custom rates.

The information presented here should be used only as a guide to rates charged in localized areas and under unique conditions. The use of these rates for future reference should take into account the fact that rates will change from year to year due to cost changes and the availability of custom operators. Cost update factors are published periodically to make adjustments to this biennial survey.

1994 FARM CUSTOM RATES (PART I)

Reported by Crop Reporting District, in Dollars Unless Otherwise Specified

	NW	N	NE	C	E	SW	S	SE	State
LAND TILLAGE OPERATIONS									
MOLDBOARD PLOWING (WITHOUT PLOW PACKER)									
Number Reporting	16	4	5	#	10	#	#	7	47
Average Rate per Acre	9.81	13.25	12.4	—	8.88	—	—	10.21	10.34
Range	6.50-14.00	10.00-16.00	10.00-20.00	—	5.00-15.00	—	—	6.00-13.00	5.00-20.00
Most Common	11.00	16.00	10.00	—	7.00	—	—	none	10.00
DISKING (PRIMARY, HEAVY)									
Number Reporting	21	7	13	6	25	16	7	18	113
Average Rate per Acre	5.79	7.64	6.63	5.79	6.28	5.89	6	6.94	6.32
Range	4.25-9.50	5.00-9.50	4.00-8.50	4.50-7.50	4.00-9.00	4.50-8.00	5.00-7.00	4.50-12.00	4.00-12.00
Most Common	6.00	none	6.00	6.00	none	none	none	6.00	6.00
DISKING (FINISHING, SECONDARY)									
Number Reporting	12	6	10	4	19	12	8	12	83
Average Rate per Acre	5.31	6.67	5.65	5.75	5.89	5.46	5.16	6.63	5.8
Range	4.00-8.00	4.50-8.00	4.00-7.00	4.00-7.50	3.50-8.00	3.50-6.00	4.00-6.25	4.50-10.00	3.50-10.00
Most Common	5.00	6.50	none	none	6.00	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.00

Too few responses to publish

	NW	N	NE	C	E	SW	S	SE	State
HARROWING (SPIKE TOOTH)									
Number Reporting	#	#	5	#	4	#	#	4	20
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	3.15	—	3.19	—	—	3.75	3.65
Range	—	—	2.00-4.00	—	2.50-4.00	—	—	2.00-6.00	2.00-6.00
Most Common	—	—	3.00	—	none	—	—	none	none
HARROWING (SPRING TOOTH)									
Number Reporting	8	—	#	#	4	#	#	#	23
Average Rate per Acre	4.75	—	—	—	4.94	—	—	—	4.73
Range	4.00-6.50	—	—	—	3.50-6.00	—	—	—	2.50-6.50
Most Common	4.00	—	—	—	6.00	—	—	—	4.00
CHISEL PLOWING (3 TO 8 INCHES) FOR PRIMARY TILLAGE									
Number Reporting	20	#	6	4	14	15	#	9	74
Average Rate per Acre	6.11	—	8	6.75	7.77	6.42	—	8.56	7.16
Range	4.00-9.50	—	6.00-10.00	6.00-8.50	5.75-10.00	4.75-8.00	—	6.00-14.00	4.00-14.00
Most Common	5.00	—	none	6.00	8.00	none	—	6.00	none
DEEP CHISELING OR SUBSOILER RIPPING (DEEPER THAN USUAL PLOW DEPTH)									
Number Reporting	8	#	7	4	16	9	5	13	63
Average Rate per Acre	11.88	—	10.36	8	9.77	8.11	9	10.54	9.95
Range	9.00-18.00	—	6.50-12.00	5.00-10.00	6.75-12.50	5.00-12.00	6.00-12.50	7.00-15.00	5.00-18.00
Most Common	10.00	—	12.00	none	none	9.00	none	10.00	10.00
FIELD CULTIVATING (3 TO 8 INCHES WITH SHANKS OR SWEEPS)									
Number Reporting	11	4	11	4	25	11	5	18	89
Average Rate per Acre	4.99	7.25	6.1	5.56	5.81	6.05	5.6	6.14	5.88
Range	4.00-7.50	5.00-8.50	4.50-8.00	4.00-7.00	4.00-7.00	4.50-9.00	4.50-6.50	4.00-10.00	4.00-10.00
Most Common	none	8.50	6.00	none	6.00	6.00	5.50	6.00	6.00
ROTARY HOEING									
Number Reporting	9	#	7	#	9	7	#	6	44
Average Rate per Acre	4.11	—	3.79	—	3.78	5.36	—	4.08	4.2
Range	3.00-6.00	—	2.00-4.50	—	3.00-4.00	4.00-8.00	—	2.00-6.00	2.00-8.00
Most Common	4.00	—	4.00	—	4.00	5.00	—	5.00	4.00
BLADE PLOWING OR WIDE SWEEP BLADING									
Number Reporting	9	—	#	#	#	8	4	#	27
Average Rate per Acre	5.39	—	—	—	—	6	5.38	—	5.76
Range	4.50-6.50	—	—	—	—	5.00-8.00	3.00-6.50	—	3.00-8.50
Most Common	none	—	—	—	—	none	6.00	—	6.00
STALK SHREDDING - (PTO DRIVEN)									
Number Reporting	#	#	#	4	12	5	6	5	37
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	—	5.63	5.12	6.2	5.75	5.3	5.61
Range	—	—	—	5.00-6.00	3.50-6.50	4.00-10.00	5.00-7.00	5.00-6.00	3.50-10.00
Most Common	—	—	—	6.00	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
PLANTING AND POST PLANTING OPERATIONS									
DRILLING SMALL GRAINS WITH DISK OPENERS									
Number Reporting	12	4	7	#	7	6	5	10	53
Average Rate per Acre	5.85	8.25	6.57	—	7.93	6.5	6.75	7.8	6.94
Range	4.00-10.00	6.00-10.00	4.00-8.00	—	5.50-12.00	5.00-8.00	5.00-8.75	4.00-12.00	4.00-12.00
Most Common	5.00	8.50	none	—	8.00	none	7.00	7.00	7.00
DRILLING SMALL GRAINS WITH HOE OPENING DEVICES									
Number Reporting	16	—	—	#	#	12	#	#	34
Average Rate per Acre	5.73	—	—	—	—	5.94	—	—	5.9
Range	4.00-9.00	—	—	—	—	4.00-8.00	—	—	4.00-10.00
Most Common	5.00	—	—	—	—	none	—	—	5.00
DRILLING SOYBEANS									
Number Reporting	—	—	15	#	23	#	5	21	66
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	9.5	—	8.97	—	7.95	9.49	9.13
Range	—	—	6.00-14.00	—	5.00-13.00	—	5.00-10.00	5.00-15.00	5.00-15.00
Most Common	—	—	none	—	none	—	none	none	10.00
SEEDING GRASS SEED									
Number Reporting	4	#	#	—	6	#	—	4	22
Average Rate per Acre	7.75	—	—	—	6.29	—	—	8.75	7.76
Range	5.00-10.00	—	—	—	4.25-8.50	—	—	4.00-11.00	4.00-11.00
Most Common	8.00	—	—	—	6.00	—	—	11.00	8.00
SEEDING LEGUMES									
Number Reporting	#	#	4	#	5	4	—	6	26
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	7.63	—	6.25	6.75	—	8.75	7.63
Range	—	—	6.00-9.00	—	4.25-8.00	5.00-8.00	—	4.50-12.00	4.25-12.00
Most Common	—	—	none	—	8.00	8.00	—	9.00	8.00
PLANTING ROW CROPS WITH APPLICATORS (NO COULTER OR ROW CLEANING DEVICES, INCLUDES NO-TILL)									
Number Reporting	7	4	5	#	13	8	4	10	54
Average Rate per Acre	9.5	10	9.3	—	9	9.69	8.5	9.05	9.2
Range	7.00-12.00	10.00-10.00	7.00-11.00	—	6.00-13.00	6.00-12.00	7.50-10.00	6.00-12.00	6.00-13.00
Most Common	10.00	10.00	none	—	none	10.00	none	none	10.00
PLANTING ROW CROPS WITHOUT APPLICATORS (NO COULTERS OR ROW CLEANING DEVICES, INCLUDES NO-TILL)									
Number Reporting	4	#	8	#	14	5	4	10	48
Average Rate per Acre	8.13	—	7.56	—	6.82	7.5	7.25	7.73	7.52
Range	7.00-10.00	—	4.00-9.50	—	4.00-10.00	5.50-11.00	6.50-9.00	4.00-9.50	4.00-12.50
Most Common	none	—	none	—	none	none	6.50	9.50	8.00
PLANTING ROW CROPS WITH APPLICATORS (WITH COULTERS)									
Number Reporting	5	4	8	#	11	8	5	5	47
Average Rate per Acre	11.1	11.25	8.97	—	9.08	9.94	8.85	10.4	9.7
Range	7.50-16.00	7.00-15.50	4.25-11.00	—	4.00-12.50	7.00-13.00	6.00-11.00	9.00-12.00	4.00-16.00
Most Common	12.00	none	none	—	none	9.00	none	10.00	10.00
PLANTING ROW CROPS WITH APPLICATORS (WITH ROW CLEANER DEVICES, FOR RIDGE PLANTING)									
Number Reporting	5	#	#	4	8	8	4	6	39
Average Rate per Acre	11.6	—	—	8.25	10.49	11.66	10.06	8.92	10.45
Range	8.00-15.00	—	—	7.00-10.50	6.50-15.00	7.50-15.00	8.75-12.50	7.00-11.00	6.50-15.00
Most Common	12.00	—	—	none	9.00	15.00	none	10.00	12.00

Too few responses to publish

	NW	N	NE	C	E	SW	S	SE	State
CULTIVATING ROW CROPS (CONVENTIONAL CROP CULTIVATOR)									
Number Reporting	8	5	8	#	14	8	6	10	61
Average Rate per Acre	5.59	5.5	5.13	—	5.23	5.69	5.92	5.35	5.44
Range	4.00-7.00	4.50-6.50	4.00-8.00	—	3.00-8.00	3.50-8.00	4.00-8.00	4.00-7.00	3.00-8.00
Most Common	none	none	5.00	—	5.00	none	none	none	5.00
CULTIVATING ROW CROPS (CULTIVATOR CAPABLE OF HANDLING RESIDUE &/OR MAKING RIDGES)									
Number Reporting	#	#	7	5	8	#	#	8	39
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	5.64	5.9	5.49	—	—	6.31	6.02
Range	—	—	5.00-8.00	5.50-6.00	3.50-7.50	—	—	5.00-8.00	3.50-8.00
Most Common	—	—	5.00	6.00	none	—	—	none	6.00
CULTIVATING ROW CROPS (HILLING OR DITCHING FOR IRRIGATION)									
Number Reporting	5	#	#	6	9	4	4	6	37
Average Rate per Acre	5.7	—	—	5.5	4.99	5.25	5.75	4.92	5.29
Range	5.00-7.00	—	—	5.00-6.00	3.00-7.50	4.00-6.00	4.50-7.50	3.00-6.50	3.00-7.50
Most Common	5.00	—	—	none	none	6.00	none	5.00	5.00
FORAGE HARVESTING									
MOWING									
Number Reporting	#	#	—	—	4	#	#	4	14
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	—	—	6.5	—	—	5.75	6.32
Range	—	—	—	—	5.00-8.00	—	—	5.00-7.00	5.00-8.00
Most Common	—	—	—	—	none	—	—	5.00	none
RAKING									
Number Reporting	#	#	4	—	4	—	#	4	17
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	3.81	—	5.75	—	—	3.63	4.22
Range	—	—	3.00-5.00	—	3.00-8.00	—	—	3.00-4.00	3.00-8.00
Most Common	—	—	none	—	none	—	—	4.00	4.00
SWATHING WITH CRUSHING OR CRIMPING									
Number Reporting	13	#	15	#	24	8	6	30	100
Average Rate per Acre	8.08	—	7.07	—	7.46	8.69	6.75	8.01	7.72
Range	6.00-12.00	—	4.50-10.00	—	5.00-10.00	6.50-12.00	5.00-8.00	6.00-12.50	4.50-12.50
Most Common	8.00	—	7.00	—	7.00	none	7.00	8.00	8.00
BALING HAY - SMALL SQUARE BALE, TWINE TIE									
Number Reporting	7	—	10	—	6	#	#	12	40
Average Rate per Bale	0.33	—	0.41	—	0.33	—	—	0.31	0.36
Range	0.25-0.50	—	0.35-0.50	—	0.30-0.40	—	—	0.22-0.40	0.22-0.50
Most Common	none	—	0.35	—	0.30	—	—	0.30	none
BALING HAY - SMALL SQUARE BALE, WIRE TIE									
Number Reporting	#	—	4	—	7	#	#	10	24
Average Rate per Bale (lbs)	—	—	0.46	—	0.38	—	—	0.4	0.41
Range	—	—	0.40-0.55	—	0.35-0.45	—	—	0.25-0.50	0.25-0.55
Most Common	—	—	0.45	—	0.35	—	—	0.40	0.40
BALING HAY - LARGE ROUND BALE									
Number Reporting	13	6	15	#	28	9	6	36	116
Average Rate per Bale	6.81	6	5.57	—	6.32	6.89	6.42	7.03	6.5
Range	6.00-8.00	5.00-7.50	5.00-7.00	—	5.00-8.00	5.00-8.00	6.00-7.00	5.50-9.50	5.00-9.50
Most Common	7.00	none	5.00	—	6.00	7.00	6.00	7.00	7.00
LIFTING AND MOVING LARGE BALE WITH TRACTOR									
Number Reporting	#	#	#	#	4	4	#	4	22
Average Rate per Bale	—	—	—	—	0.95	1.88	—	1.19	1.24
Range	—	—	—	—	0.80-1.00	1.50-2.00	—	1.00-1.75	0.50-2.50
Most Common	—	—	—	—	1.00	2.00	—	1.00	1.00
SMALL GRAIN HARVEST									
WINDROWING GRAIN CROPS									
Number Reporting	11	#	6	—	#	#	#	#	26
Average Rate per Acre	7.05	—	6.42	—	—	—	—	—	6.88
Range	5.00-10.00	—	4.00-7.50	—	—	—	—	—	4.00-10.00
Most Common	7.00	—	7.50	—	—	—	—	—	none
COMBINING SMALL GRAINS FLAT CHARGE									
Number Reporting	7	5	9	#	18	8	8	19	76
Average Rate per Acre	13.71	14.1	15.56	—	18.58	14.88	17.31	17.58	16.66
Range	12.00-18.00	12.00-17.00	12.00-20.00	—	13.00-23.00	12.00-20.00	13.00-22.50	12.00-25.00	12.00-25.00
Most Common	12.00	12.00	12.00	—	20.00	none	15.00	18.00	20.00
COMBINING SMALL GRAINS - FLAT CHARGE WITH EXTRA CHARGE FOR HIGH YIELDS									
Number Reporting	17	—	—	#	#	15	5	4	45
Average Rate per Acre	12.35	—	—	—	—	12.2	12.6	13.25	12.44
Range	10.00-14.00	—	—	—	—	12.00-13.00	12.00-14.00	12.00-15.00	10.00-15.00
Most Common	12.00	—	—	—	—	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
PLUS AVERAGE CENTS/BUSHEL ABOVE 20 BUSHEL/ACRE									
Number Reporting	17	—	—	#	#	15	5	4	45
Average cents per bushel	12.06	—	—	—	—	12.07	12.2	10.75	12.02
Range	10.00-13.00	—	—	—	—	10.00-13.00	10.00-14.00	5.00-14.00	5.00-15.00
Most Common	12.00	—	—	—	—	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
HAULING SMALL GRAIN FROM COMBINE TO LOCAL STORAGE FLAT RATE PER BUSHEL									
Number Reporting	16	#	6	4	20	17	9	11	86
Average Cents per Bushel	11.94	—	7.83	8.5	7.43	10.12	9.89	8.36	9.37
Range	10.00-15.00	—	5.00-10.00	5.00-13.00	5.00-12.00	5.00-13.00	5.00-12.00	4.00-14.00	4.00-15.00
Most Common	12.00	—	8.00	none	none	12.00	12.00	none	12.00
APPLICATION OF FERTILIZERS									
DRY FERTILIZERS (POWER, LABOR & APPLICATOR)									
Number Reporting	5	#	5	#	11	6	7	10	46
Average Rate per Acre	3.7	—	2.85	—	3.5	3.38	3.64	3.65	3.48
Range	3.00-4.00	—	2.50-3.50	—	2.50-5.00	3.00-3.50	2.00-5.00	3.00-4.50	2.00-5.00
Most Common	none	—	2.50	—	3.00	3.50	none	3.50	none

Too few responses to publish

	NW	N	NE	C	E	SW	S	SE	State
LIQUID FERTILIZERS (POWER, LABOR & APPLICATOR)									
Number Reporting	5	—	6	#	12	6	8	14	53
Average Rate per Acre	3.8	—	3.9	—	3.69	3.46	3.38	3.62	3.62
Range	3.00-4.50	—	3.00-4.50	—	3.00-4.75	3.00-4.00	2.00-5.00	3.00-4.75	2.00-5.00
Most Common	4.00	—	4.50	—	4.00	3.50	none	3.50	3.00
ANHYDROUS AMMONIA - CONVENTIONAL KNIFE (POWER, LABOR & APPLICATOR)									
Number Reporting	8	#	7	4	10	6	5	15	58
Average Rate per Acre	5.19	—	5.5	6	5.88	5	5.3	6.43	5.83
Range	4.00-6.50	—	5.00-6.00	4.50-7.00	4.00-10.00	3.00-6.00	5.00-6.50	4.00-10.00	3.00-10.00
Most Common	none	—	none	none	5.00	5.00	5.00	none	5.00
ANHYDROUS AMMONIA - CONVENTIONAL KNIFE WITH COULTERS (POWER, LABOR & APPLICATOR)									
Number Reporting	#	#	5	#	13	7	9	11	51
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	5.7	—	6.67	6	6	7.18	6.35
Range	—	—	5.00-6.50	—	5.00-11.00	5.00-7.00	4.50-7.00	5.50-9.50	4.50-11.00
Most Common	—	—	5.50	—	6.00	6.00	none	7.50	6.00
MISCELLANEOUS									
WEED CONTROL (BOOM SPRAYER)									
Number Reporting	5	#	9	#	19	9	5	19	71
Average Rate per Acre	4.07	—	3.44	—	3.47	3.47	3.35	3.53	3.5
Range	3.85-4.50	—	2.00-4.00	—	2.75-4.50	2.50-4.00	3.00-4.00	2.75-7.00	2.00-7.00
Most Common	4.00	—	none	—	3.50	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.50
CROP SPRAYING BY SURFACE VEHICLES OF INSECTICIDES &/OR HERBICIDES									
Number Reporting	6	#	4	#	13	5	4	19	54
Average Rate per Acre	3.71	—	4.06	—	3.83	3.55	3.69	3.61	3.7
Range	3.00-4.50	—	3.50-5.00	—	3.00-4.50	3.50-3.75	3.00-4.75	2.75-4.75	2.75-5.00
Most Common	3.50	—	3.50	—	4.00	3.50	none	3.50	3.50
CROP SPRAYING BY AIRCRAFT									
Number Reporting	6	#	#	#	6	#	#	6	27
Average Rate per Acre	4.64	—	—	—	4.63	—	—	4.88	4.49
Range	3.50-7.00	—	—	—	3.00-7.25	—	—	4.00-6.00	3.00-7.25
Most Common	none	—	—	—	4.00	—	—	none	4.00
LOADING MANURE WITH TRACTOR AND LOADER									
Number Reporting	#	—	#	—	4	#	—	#	13
Average Rate per Hour	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	32.69
Range	—	—	—	—	25.00-50.00	—	—	—	20.00-50.00
Most Common	—	—	—	—	25.00	—	—	—	20.00
HAULING AND SPREADING DRY MANURE (TRACTOR, SPREADER AND LABOR)									
Number Reporting	#	—	#	#	#	#	#	#	10
Average Rate per Hour	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41.5
Range	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.00-70.00
Most Common	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50.00
TRACTOR RENT 110-149 PTO H.P. PER METER HOUR									
Number Reporting	#	#	#	#	9	#	5	10	33
Average Rate per Hour	—	—	—	—	17.67	—	15.78	15.1	16.54
Range	—	—	—	—	14.00-22.50	—	14.00-18.00	6.00-20.00	6.00-25.00
Most Common	—	—	—	—	20.00	—	15.00	20.00	15.00
CUSTOM FARMING									
WINTER WHEAT (INCLUDING FALLOW GROUND)									
Number Reporting	7	—	—	—	#	4	#	#	17
Average Rate per Acre	43	—	—	—	—	47	—	—	46.12
Range	30.00-55.00	—	—	—	—	28.00-60.00	—	—	28.00-65.00
Most Common	45.00	—	—	—	—	60.00	—	—	45.00
GRAIN SORGHUM									
Number Reporting	—	—	—	—	#	#	#	5	11
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49	51.18
Range	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35.00-55.00	35.00-60.00
Most Common	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	none	none
SOYBEANS									
Number Reporting	—	#	7	#	10	#	#	5	27
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	53.73	—	55.9	—	—	52	56.3
Range	—	—	38.60-65.00	—	43.00-70.00	—	—	30.00-65.00	30.00-85.00
Most Common	—	—	65.00	—	none	—	—	none	50.00
CORN, DRYLAND									
Number Reporting	—	—	6	#	8	#	#	#	22
Average Rate per Acre	—	—	56.35	—	60.75	—	—	—	58.14
Range	—	—	35.60-70.00	—	45.00-75.00	—	—	—	35.00-80.00
Most Common	—	—	65.00	—	none	—	—	—	65.00
CORN, IRRIGATED (EXCLUDES ENERGY COST FOR IRRIGATION)									
Number Reporting	#	5	#	#	6	6	#	#	31
Average Rate per Acre	—	78	—	—	66.17	80.5	—	—	74.44
Range	—	65.00-85.00	—	—	50.00-90.00	73.00-85.00	—	—	50.00-90.00
Most Common	—	85.00	—	—	none	80.00	—	—	80.00

Too few responses to publish

Producers or custom operators wishing to respond to future custom rates surveys can send their name and address to Ray Massey, 210 Mussehl Hall, P.O. Box 830714, Lincoln, NE 68583-0714

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M-1, Prices
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Kenneth R. Bolen, Director of Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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